



NEWSLETTER

CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY
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Email: stthomas.canterbury@talk21.com Web Site: www.stthomasofcanterbury.com

St Thomas' Shop (462896): open Sunday mornings & weekdays (Times on Shop Door)

Parish Priest: Canon Anthony Charlton. Assistant Priest: Father Daniel Weatherley. Parish Deacon: Rev. David Avery.

Also assisting: Fr. George Marsden.

St Anselm's Catholic Secondary School: Head Teacher: Mr Michael Walters (01227 826200);

St Thomas' Catholic Primary School: Head Teacher: Miss Lisa D'Agostini (01227 462539)

University of Kent Chaplain: Fr Peter Geldard (Telephone/Facsimile: 01227 462198 : Mobile 07970 228762)

Office open: Monday-Thursday 9am - 3pm Friday 9am - 1pm
for all enquiries, appointments, bookings & all parish business
(Closed for lunch between 12.15 - 1pm)



PARISH MATTERS



Calling all parents who are wishing to have their children Baptised... our next preparation meeting will be on

Saturday, 18 November at 09h30

Please call the office to make sure we have your name and also please fill in a Registration Form in advance (available on our web-site or at the back of church)

Thank you



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018

Dear Parents of children who are in Year 3 from September you can now register your child for the 2018 First Communion programme - forms need to be in by November 19th. Forms are at the back of the church.

Journey in Faith (RCIA) - ongoing
Next meeting Tuesday 7th November 2017
in Presbytery at 7.30pm.

CCCU Cathsoc Talk
Monday 13th November 2017
Forming Intentional Disciples: Evangelisation at Uni
Hannah Vaughan Spruce

FROM FR ANTHONY, please note: all parents who wish priests of the parish to sign their child's supplementary form for St Anselm's school or Saint Thomas of Canterbury School, should make an appointment at the office to see the priest individually. Please do not ask the priest to sign these forms after Mass on Sunday. Thank you very much

Come and take part in the **CITYWIDE SONGS OF PRAISE SERVICE in Canterbury Cathedral on Sunday 19 November at 6.30pm** – a big celebration of our Christian faith. Regret no cameras. There will be a retiring offering for the Pilgrims Hospices. The Cathedral regret that because of building works it will not be possible to park in the Precincts.

SIGN UP SUNDAY - 18/19 NOVEMBER 2017
Your parish needs you...to get involved ... just for a while ... the more of us that do means we share the load and the joys... Please think about giving your time - even if it is just for an hour a month - to one of our many Ministries. You can do this in th Hall after your Mass on the weekend of 18/19 November 2017. Thank you

Official Prayer to prepare for the World Meeting of Families 2018
God, our Father,
We are brothers and sisters in Jesus your Son,
One family, in the Spirit of your love.
Bless us with the joy of love. Make us patient and kind,
gentle and generous, welcoming to those in need.
Help us to live your forgiveness and peace.
Protect all families with your loving care,
Especially those for whom we now pray:
[We pause and remember family members and others by name].
Increase our faith, Strengthen our hope,
Keep us safe in your love,
Make us always grateful for the gift of life that we share.
This we ask, through Christ our Lord, **Amen**

From Fr Anthony ...

Last month on BBC 4 there were three excellent programmes entitled "Meditations from a monastery." These had no spoken commentary and the hour long programme followed the routines of certain monks in each of the three monasteries. What struck me was the silence in their lives, Silence was a key part of their life. The first word of St Benedict's rule is "Listen". Sister Jeremy Hall OSB writes in her book, "Silence Solitude Simplicity" "I must be silent enough to truly hear. Out of our wordiness there now seems to have developed a thirst for solitude and silence again. We have begun to realise that dialogue of itself is not the total solution. It is in fruitful, reflective, and prayerful silence that we come to some real measure of depth, clarity, rootedness, and cohesion. Otherwise we are battling for air." In the Bishops of England and Wales Guide to Catholic Spirituality we read that real silence is not merely the absence of noise. We can be quiet in a noisy world. Real silence helps us to get in touch with our real selves, and opens the path for us to hear the still small voice of God. However noisy and busy our lives are we need to create moments of silence in our day. As we wake, do not switch on the radio or immediately look at our emails. Sit on the edge of the bed and drink in those first moments. When you are in the car or on the bus be aware of the present and create an inner silence. There is one event in which we all participate where we can create moments of silence and that is the celebration of Mass. In the Liturgy, silence has an important part to play. Let's look at some of the places where we can be silent. There are different types of silence at Mass. Silence expressing a break, giving a short pause for clarity of structure and flow e.g., before the Liturgy of the Word) Silence as a pause for recollection such as a pause before the Opening Prayer, at the Penitential Rite, and at the end of the Readings. There can be silence at our preparation for communion and at the prayer after Communion. We also need to be silent while something happens; while we listen to the readings, while we pray at the Eucharistic prayer. We also have opportunities for silent reflection when there is a more extended period after the Homily or after Communion (leading to prayer and praise).

Coming together in Church before Mass is both a personal and communal time. This is the one time when we meet each other but at some point before our opening hymn there needs time for personal preparation, to recollect in prayer. Pope Benedict in his letter, "Sacramentum Caritatis" says "Active participation in the Eucharistic liturgy can hardly be expected if one approaches it superficially, without an examination of his or her life. This inner disposition can be fostered, for example by recollection and silence at least a few moments before the beginning of the liturgy". Saint Teresa of Calcutta wrote: *The fruit of silence is prayer. The fruit of prayer is faith. The fruit of faith is love. The fruit of love is service. The fruit of service is peace.*

TIMES OF MASSES & INTENTIONS

6pm (Vigil) Ann Patricia O'Leary - RIP (M. MacDonald)

Sunday 5th November 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mt 23:1-12

8am People of the Parish

9:30am David Riley - RIP (Tita Riley)

11am Joachin Dyer - RIP (M&C Scott)

12.15pm *Baptism of Harmony-Anne Viscount*

3pm Filipino Community Mass

Blessing of the graves at Canterbury Cemetery

6pm Good Health

Monday 6th November Feria Lk 14:12-14

7.30am Helen Nattrass - Thanks (Charlton)

12 noon Intentions of Una Harris

7-9pm *Eucharistic Adoration*

7pm *Charismatic Prayer - Upper Room*

Tuesday 7th November Dedication of the Cathedral Church of St

George Lk 14:15-24

7.30am Paul Becker - RIP (Dietrich)

12 noon Gerald Shields - RIP (Webb)

7.30pm *RCIA - in Presbytery*

Wednesday 8th November St. Willibrord Lk 14:25-34

7.30am Eddie Ryan - RIP (Tett)

10.30 - 11.30 *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Daniel)*

12 noon Evans & McDonnell Families - RIP (Evans)

7-8.30pm *Eucharistic Adoration*

Thursday 9th November Dedication of St John Lateran

Jn 2:13-22

7.30am Edward Salmon - RIP (Sheridan)

12 noon Frances & Michael-Joe Keavney - RIP

Scripture Group after Mass

5.30pm *Confirmation Meeting*

7.45pm *Prayer & Pub*

Friday 10th November St Leo the Great PD. Lk16: 1-8

12 noon Richard & Tony Harris - RIP (Una)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass & Benediction 1.30pm

7.30pm Raymond & Nuala Nash (Moore)

Eucharistic Adoration after Mass 'til 9pm

Saturday 11th November St Martin of Tours Lk 16:9-15

10.30 - 11.30 *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)*

12 noon Mary Fleming - RIP (Davis Family)

4.30 - 5.30pm *Sacrament of Reconciliation (Fr Anthony)*

6pm (Vigil) People of the Parish

7.30pm Quiz & Curry Evening in Hall

Sunday 12th November 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mt 25:1-13

8am Ndidi Family (Ndidi)

9:30am UCM Members & Families

11am Good Health

4pm Polish Community Mass

6pm Janina & Augustyn Rostecy - RIP (Bozena)

2nd Collection:
The Columban
Mission Appeal
(red boxes!)

2nd Collection:
The Archbishop's
Administration
Fund



Dates for your Diary

Curry & Quiz Evening for all ages!

Saturday 11th November

in the Church Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Curries to suit all tastes - vegetarian available

Bring your own drinks

(tea, coffee and children's soft drinks provided)

Adults £7 / 17yrs and under £3

Tickets available in advance:

After all Masses in the Hall Entrance or

from the Parish Office Mon - Fri 9am to 3pm

Barn Dance (in aid of HCPT -Group 87)

Saturday, 18 November. 7.15 for 7.30pm

at St Anselm's School, Old Dover Road.

£6 (U14 - £3) . Dancing to live band Meadow Folk

Bring your own food and drinks - tea and coffee provided

Tickets: anniejudge@hotmail.com / tel. 07866 515797

See Notice at the back of the church for more details.

CATHOLIC LEGACY WEEK 5TH - 11TH NOVEMBER 2017

Gifts in your Will are a wonderful way you can continue to support the Churches' Ministry & Mission and help to meet the needs of future generations. Do please consider Gifts to the Church and Catholic charities next time you update your Will. For more information, pick up a leaflet: contact Your Catholic Legacy on 0207 095 5370; go to www.yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk or contact Adrian Radford, the Diocesan Financial Controller, by email; Adrian.radford@finance-rcdsouthwark.org

Father Jim Fleming SSC will speak at all Masses on 4/5 November about the work of the Columban Missionaries. There will be a retiring collection.

November Lists: We remember family and friends who have died. Please write their names on the sheets at the back of Church to be brought up with the offertory.
Next Sunday is Remembrance Sunday.

Please remember in your prayers: Gloria Soar, Suzy Drayson, Agnes Daly, Theresa Punnett, Lorna Feeney, Toni-Lee D'Amiral, Charles Ryan, David Tully, Winifred May, Margaret Holman, Mary Wallace, Marie Strong, Pat Gill, Katie Cobbett, Angelina Frizell, Mary Gillette, Christopher Browne, Ewa Szczepanska, Mary Jones, Erlinda Rogers, David Bull, Dara Borland, Alan Skeet, Louisa Ward, Joan Willey, Mary Donellan, Janette Hughes, Vlasta Cerna, Amanda Watts, Fr Peter Madden, Sr Margaret McGrath, Maurice Crosland, Joao Ferreira, Barbara Brett, Hannelore Hall, Mary Dietrich, June Carver, Francis Brown, Frank Johnson, Kathleen Hutchinson, Rosa Maria Santos, Brian Henley.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of:

Mary Fleming, Maria Rosaria Adorisio, John Sullivan, Gordon Andrews, Fr Gerry Coates, Edward Salmon and Mary Jones

Collections on the weekend of 29th October :
Offertory: £921.76 loose & £609.98 Gift Aided - total £1531.74
SVP Second Collection: Your contribution of £534.11.
Thank You for your generosity.